

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A complete list of all presently pending claims in the application is provided below, with suitable headings to show the status of each claim.

1. (Amended) A system for controlling a function of a medical device, said system including:

a microphone for receiving a plurality of verbal command commands from an operator;

a system control and speech recognition processor for receiving said a first verbal command from said microphone, selecting a function, receiving a second verbal command from said microphone, and assigning said function to an input device; and console in response to said verbal command; and

an input console for controlling said function assigned to said input console device when activated by said operator.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a medical imaging acquisition and display system for displaying medical images.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a verbal command as a predetermined verbal command.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said input console is a foot-input console.

6. (Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said medical ~~imaging~~ device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.

7. (Amended) A system for controlling a function of a medical device, said system including:

a microphone for receiving a plurality of verbal commands ~~command~~ from an operator;

a system control and speech recognition processor for receiving said a first verbal command, selecting a function, receiving a second verbal command, and assigning said function to an input device; ~~console in response to said verbal command;~~

an input ~~device~~ console for initiating said function assigned to said input device when activated by said operator; and

a display for displaying the function assigned to said input device.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said display displays medical images.

9. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined verbal command.

10. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.

11. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.

12. (Amended) The system of claim 7 wherein said medical ~~imaging~~ device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.

13. (Amended) A system for assigning a function of a medical device to an input device, said system including:

a system control and speech recognition processor for receiving a first verbal command from an operator, selecting a function, receiving a second verbal command from an operator, and assigning said function to an input device. ~~in response to said verbal command;~~

14. (Amended) The system of claim 13 further including a microphone for receiving said verbal commands ~~command~~ from said operator.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13 further including a medical imaging acquisition and display system for displaying medical images.

16. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined verbal command.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said system control and speech recognition processor is programmed to recognize a predetermined function.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.

19. (Amended) The system of claim 13 wherein said medical ~~imaging~~ device is an ultrasonic medical imaging device.

20. (Amended) A method for controlling a function of a medical device, said method including the steps of:

receiving a first verbal command from an operator;

selecting a function in response to said first verbal command;

receiving a second verbal command from an operator;

assigning said function to an input device console in response to said verbal ~~command~~ commands; and

controlling said function assigned to said input device ~~in response~~
~~to said verbal command~~ when said input device is activated by an operator.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein said verbal commands are ~~command is received by said operator~~ by a microphone.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.

23. (Amended) A method for assigning a function of a medical device to an input device, said method including the steps of:

receiving a first verbal command for selecting a function;

receiving ~~an additional~~ a second verbal command for assigning said function to an input device;

assigning said function to said input device in response to said verbal commands; and

controlling said function assigned to said input device in response to said verbal commands when said input device is activated by an operator.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein said verbal commands are ~~command is received by said operator~~ by a microphone.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein said input device is a foot-input device.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

A draft copy of claim amendments was sent to the USPTO on June 10, 2004. Claims 1-25, as amended above, were discussed with reference to United States patents 6,514,201 and 6,646,541. For reasons stated herein, the Examiner agreed that the amended claim language will overcome the current prior art rejections.